

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A display panel includes a plurality of unit light emission areas (light emission elements) arranged in a matrix.

Each unit light emission area is defined by a first discharge cell and a second discharge cell. The second discharge cell has a light-absorbing layer. When the display panel is driven to express an image having a plurality of gradation levels, address discharge is selectively caused in the second discharge cells in accordance with an input image signal. Light leaks to the first discharge cell from the second discharge cell upon the address discharge. This light is used to express the gradation of low luminance. Since luminance difference between gradation levels of a low luminance image is reduced, it is possible to display a high quality, low luminance image.